

An aerial photograph of a river delta, showing a complex network of water channels and wetlands. The water is a deep blue, while the surrounding land is a lighter, textured blue-grey. The perspective is from a high angle, looking down at the delta's intricate patterns.

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

*The CALFED Bay-Delta  
Program is committed to  
shaping California's water  
solutions through extensive  
public involvement in every  
Program element.*



The California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee is a cornerstone of CALFED's public involvement. Established in October 2001, the 30-member Committee is charged with advising state and federal CALFED agencies on all aspects of Program implementation.

With representation from an array of environmental, water, tribal and civic interest groups, the Committee provides a key link among CALFED agencies, stakeholders and the public. Nine subcommittees – formed over the past year – have emerged as an integral part of CALFED, providing oversight and input on specific program areas such as environmental justice and water use efficiency.

- Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee
- Drinking Water Subcommittee
- Ecosystem Restoration Subcommittee
- Environmental Justice Subcommittee
- Steering Committee
- Water Use Efficiency Subcommittee
- Watershed Subcommittee
- Water Supply Subcommittee
- Working Landscapes Subcommittee

### **CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



*Gary Hunt, California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee*

As CALFED's principal advisory body, the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee and its members shaped many of the Program's success stories in 2002, from passage of Proposition 50 to the development of a new governance structure. These and other issues were vigorously debated, but always with a shared commitment to the future of the Program.

The Committee also charged its nine subcommittees with developing goals, workplans, and measures of success to guide their activities. These subcommittees are now actively engaged in shaping the direction of every program element. In particular,

I want to thank Denny Bungarz, our vice-chair, and each of the subcommittee chairs, for their time, their patience, and their leadership.

In 2003, the Committee and its members will face the daunting task of providing advice on the transition to our new governance structure, Congressional reauthorization, and on meeting the milestones and commitments necessary to maintain balanced implementation. But between the energy and commitment of our members, and the continued strong support of Mary Nichols and Bennett Raley, I am confident that we can rise to the challenge.





Martha Guzman

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

The Environmental Justice Subcommittee was formed in December 2001, and is co-chaired by Martha Guzman and Leslie Lohse. Its purpose is to provide advice and guidance to the BDPAC to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development and implementation of Program actions. The subcommittee is working to integrate environmental justice into all CALFED Program elements. Other activities include encouraging broad public participation, exchanging information, analyzing issues, and fact-finding, as appropriate, regarding the implementation of all CALFED Projects.

Regional workshops were hosted by the Program and the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water. In addition, the subcommittee hosted meetings with other subcommittees and project managers to identify issues and approaches for addressing them. As a result, the sub-



Ryan Broddrick

## **ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION**

The Ecosystem Restoration Subcommittee represents a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including agency representatives. The group spent much of its time working on desired outcomes for the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP). A majority report on outcomes, along with a minority statement of concerns, was accepted by BDPAC for consideration by the CALFED Policy Group. Provided below is a review of the ERP.

As one of the nation's most ambitious attempts to reverse the degradation and restore the health of a unique environment – the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary— the ERP relies heavily on strategic planning, adaptive management and independent scientific review. Over the past year, the ERP has kept the momentum for this effort going by developing an implementation plan for the first seven years of CALFED (Stage 1). Over sixty projects were selected for funding using a competitive solicitation process that will help restore aquatic habitats, improve fish passage, promote wildlife friendly agricultural practices, and conduct needed re-



Tom Zuckerman

## **DELTA LEVEES AND HABITAT**

The Delta Levee Subcommittee was authorized by the BDPAC on March 12, 2002, and is co-chaired by Marci Coglianese and Tom Zuckerman. The subcommittee adopted a mission statement, goals, and priorities for 2002.

The subcommittee meets with the existing Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee that was created by the Secretary of Resources in the early 1990s to bring together federal, state, special district representatives and interested parties to address issues regarding the State's Levee Subvention Program.

On June 7, the Delta Levee Subcommittee adopted a report that was forwarded to BDPAC for the June 27 public meeting. The BDPAC adopted the recommendation and conveyed it to the CALFED Policy Group on December 4.

The primary issue of concern was short and long-term funding. The State's Levee Subvention Program has been brought under the umbrella of CALFED. Funds for the State's Levee Subventions Program were cut in 2002, and funds for the CALFED Levee Program were also cut in 2002.



committee drafted an Environmental Justice Work Plan that was accepted for consideration by BDPAC. The Program has begun to implement a number of tasks in the work plan and will continue with the tasks in the coming year.

The subcommittee also provided advice to the Program on qualities and expertise needed for an effective Environmental Justice Coordinator. After overcoming contracting and funding delays, the Program has now hired a Coordinator, Ken McGhee, to help integrate and advance environmental justice into the CALFED Program.

The subcommittee will continue efforts to advance environmental justice in the CALFED Program. Greater coordination with all Program elements and other subcommittees is needed to clearly identify environmental justice issues associated with actions and projects.



*Leslie Lohse*

search, planning and monitoring. In addition, a “look-back” exercise was initiated to better assess the efficacy of past restoration investments.

Significant challenges remain, however, that will need to be overcome. CALFED’s commitment to acquire water to improve in-stream flow conditions in Central Valley rivers continues to be delayed, and adequate funding has not yet been allocated to this critical restoration element. Restrictions on hiring staff and administering contracts have delayed implementing a number of ERP elements, such as disbursing funds to restoration projects and moving ahead with important regional planning activities.

Priorities for this coming year will include the need to secure adequate and continuing long-term funding for the ERP; improve its administrative capability; meet Bay-Delta Plan commitments for water and habitat acquisition; and increase efforts to build local partnerships and implement regional plans for each ecological zone in the estuary.



*Gary Bobker*

With the passage of Proposition 50, \$75 million is now available for funding the next three years of Levee Subventions Program and the CALFED Levee Program. The Proposition 50 funds are a major step towards meeting Bay-Delta Plan commitments over the next three years. However, there is no secure source of funding beyond the near-term. For the long-term, the Delta Levee Subcommittee has recommended that state and federal water contractors contribute funding for the Program according to the volume of water they divert from the Delta. This and other funding recommendations will be considered in the development of a long-term finance plan for the Program.

In 2003, the subcommittee will continue to coordinate the CALFED Levee Program with other CALFED programs, such as water quality and ecosystem restoration, and will review new research and data developed through the CALFED program, such as global warming and sea level rise, to determine emerging issues in relation to the Delta Levee Program.



*Marci Coglianese*





Ryan Broddrick

### **WORKING LANDSCAPES**

The Working Landscapes Subcommittee is working to promote conservation partnerships among CALFED agencies, private landowners, local governments and conservation groups. The subcommittee is working with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Department of Conservation and other CALFED agencies and providing advice and recommendations on an approach that provides stakeholders with incentives and support, assists them with regulatory processes and minimizes adverse impacts on agricultural resources.

The committee was appointed by the BDPAC on June 27 and has held several meetings. The subcommittee has forwarded its recommended approval of the subcommittee mission statement, goals and objectives to BDPAC for consideration in Spring 2003. Agency staff is working on an action plan that will be forwarded to the subcommittee and BDPAC for later action.



Steve Hall

### **WATER SUPPLY**

With its broad-based membership, the Water Supply Subcommittee continues to oversee implementation of the conveyance, storage and water transfers programs.

The committee played a key role in 2002 in developing the concept of using common assumptions for water management projects and actions. Common assumptions work will become part of the foundation for comparing and integrating projects, allocating and maximizing benefits, while minimizing costs, and developing defensible cost allocation criteria. The subcommittee reviewed and supported draft common assumptions work plans and will continue to serve as a forum for discussion of modeling and operational assumptions issues.

With respect to storage, the subcommittee forwarded a recommendation to the BDPAC requesting support for the staff work plan on In-Delta storage, with a goal of providing information for a decision in July 2003. That recommendation was adopted by the Committee. In October, several subcommittee members took part in a briefing on storage issues before the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee. The subcommittee members represented individual stakeholder interests and also increased the visibility of the subcommittee's efforts on storage issues.



David Guy

### **WATER USE EFFICIENCY**

The Water Use Efficiency Subcommittee made tremendous strides in 2002 in guiding the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program toward achieving milestones in the Bay-Delta Plan. Specifically, the subcommittee has advanced proposals to the BDPAC on milestones for implementation of the Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Program as well as a framework for certification of best management practices in the Urban Memorandum of Understanding. The BDPAC accepted the recommendations that have been incorporated into the Year 3 workplan. These efforts continue to build upon the work already underway in the Agricultural Water Management Council (AB 3616) and the California Urban Water Conservation Council. The subcommittee and CALFED staff also have developed a foundation to advance a proposal on both agricultural and urban appropriate water measurement in 2003.

In addition, the subcommittee has helped foster unprecedented collaboration between diverse interests that will be essential to achieving the ambitious requirements in the Bay-Delta



Ground rules were developed that include a proposal that the subcommittee membership be open to those who participate and show up to the meetings, as is the case with BDPAC's Watershed and Environmental Justice subcommittees.

The subcommittee recommended goals and high priority actions for the Program's coming year. The BDPAC accepted the recommendations and the goals and priorities were incorporated in the Year 3 work plans. The subcommittee will continue to work with landowners and address their concerns related to the Program. The current priority is solidifying an action plan that includes the following overarching goals: supporting locally based collaborative initiatives; minimizing and mitigating adverse Program impacts on agricultural resources; and coordinating funding and outreach to rural communities.



*Denny Bungarz*

Funding remains a critical issue. There currently is not enough funding available to support progress on projects and achieve water management milestones within the time frames established in the Bay-Delta Plan. With the recent passage of Proposition 50 and assuming that no further General Fund spending cuts will be made to the storage program, the state's share of funding is expected to be secure for the next three years. However, without adequate federal funding and authority for federal agencies to participate in storage studies, it will be difficult to meet the expected Year 3 and 4 needs of the storage program.

In the coming year, the subcommittee will continue its work on the common assumptions program. It will focus attention on the need to adequately fund studies necessary to prioritize water supply projects, and will work with the Program and agency staff on a work plan designed to make decisions on water supply projects according to the timetable described in the Bay-Delta Plan.



*Jerry Meral*

Plan. The subcommittee also has been encouraged by the new forms of cooperation among CALFED agencies that will be necessary for successful implementation of the CALFED Program.

As in other program areas, funding remains the major challenge to keep the WUE program on schedule in 2003. The passage of Proposition 50 provides important state funds for the CALFED WUE program and particularly urban and agricultural water use efficiency measures and water recycling projects. Increased federal funding will also be necessary to advance this program.

The subcommittee, after completing the urban certification framework, still has additional technical work and policy-level discussions to complete before proceeding with legislation and regulation. Additional emphasis in 2003 will be placed on performance measures, water recycling, and desalination.



*Frances Spivy-Weber*





Marguerite Young

## **DRINKING WATER**

Early in 2002, the Drinking Water Subcommittee identified the need to help CALFED achieve its Drinking Water Quality Program (DWQP) milestones by developing a strategic plan for the program by spring 2003. The plan will be a living document, centered around identified tools, with regular reviews to consider the most current information and to track the progress of the Program. Elements of this plan include:

- Adoption of an Equivalent Level of Public Health Protection Conceptual Framework. As a first step in the strategic plan, the subcommittee identified a conceptual framework that is essentially the complete set of tools available to assist the DWQP with prioritizing projects and tracking progress toward meeting the goals.
- Recommendation on Advanced Treatment Studies. The subcommittee also identified the need for the DWQP to immediately place the highest priority on advanced treatment studies to fill the knowledge gaps on the formation of the potentially carcinogenic, regulated disinfection by-products upon which the program targets are based.
- Recommendation on Waivers for Agricultural Discharges. The subcommittee identified the development of a drinking water policy for inclusion in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers Basin Plan by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control



Martha Davis

## **WATERSHEDS**

The emphasis for the Watershed Subcommittee in 2002 was forging connections between people and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Subcommittee members believe the “watershed approach” — using watersheds as a context for managing complex inter-relationships between people and use of land and water resources — is a vital component in achieving overall CALFED goals.

To that end, the Watershed Subcommittee went on the road in 2002, hosting subcommittee meetings in the San Joaquin Valley, Los Angeles basin, and West Sacramento Valley. These meetings provided opportunities to better inform the public about the Program, and to learn first hand of the outstanding local efforts underway to improve the functions and values of watersheds.

Providing financial and technical support to community-based watershed efforts is another way the Watershed Program is trying to promote and achieve improved management of watersheds. The subcommittee played a pivotal role in getting the Program’s first year set of 54 grants underway, and established the principles, priorities and criteria that guided the selection of 30 additional proposals in 2002.



Board as critical to the success of the DWQP. In addition to policy development, the subcommittee recommended that the CVRWQCB require monitoring of the impacts of agricultural discharges to drinking water constituents of concern.

- Recommendations on funding. The subcommittee recommended that the CALFED Program develop a funding plan for the next fiscal year focused on bond funds available from recent water quality initiatives and other sources. The subcommittee also recommended specific funding guidelines for use of those funds.

All of the above recommendations were either accepted or adopted by BDPAC.

- Drinking Water Quality Policy Framework. The DWQP needs to achieve integration and benefits across all Program areas. Because of its importance to other areas of the Program, the subcommittee is taking it in draft form to other BDPAC subcommittees prior to making a final recommendation.

The subcommittee also recognizes the need for the US. Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Health Services to accept their agreed-upon roles for funding and overall management of the DWQP per the DWQP Management MOU and SB 1653.



*Greg Gartrell*

The subcommittee is keenly interested in the integration of program efforts within the CALFED family of programs, as well as other state and federal programs which may contribute toward our major goals and objectives. Subcommittee members are particularly interested in exploring the potential for better integrating the efforts of the Watershed, Drinking Water Quality, Ecosystem Restoration, and Water Use Efficiency programs, and the Environmental Justice Subcommittee. The Watershed Subcommittee will be working to organize a joint meeting of these groups to begin discussions.

Adequate funding for implementing the CALFED Watershed Program, as well as other programs, remains a key priority for the subcommittee. Funding levels, especially for program staff, have been inadequate to allow the Watershed Program to meet some of its Bay-Delta Plan objectives. The subcommittee will continue to work with CALFED staff, the Legislature, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on this issue.



*Robert Meacher*



### **ENGAGING THE PUBLIC**

Public outreach and partnerships continue to be a primary focus of the Program. Success for a Program of this diversity and magnitude hinges on the ability to form partnerships to combine resources, share knowledge and resolve problems at the local, regional, and state-wide level.

#### *HAMILTON CITY FLOOD PROTECTION & ECOSYSTEM PROJECT*

“This is an immense boost for the local citizens in this area. We have tried for years to raise the revenue for the local cost share to have this study completed. With this assistance, we have a new beginning that we hope will lead to a long-term solution for the town of Hamilton City.”

- Jose Puente, General Manager of the Hamilton City Community Services District



*Colonel Michael J. Conrad, Jr., Sacramento District Engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, addresses a group gathered in Hamilton City to hear the announcement of \$420,000 in state funding to fund a study for flood protection and ecosystem restoration on the Sacramento River.*

#### *STATEN ISLAND WILDLIFE FRIENDLY AG*

“The Nature Conservancy is delighted to have CALFED’s support for these partnership activities on Staten Island. The work will yield tangible and lasting benefits for Sandhill cranes, waterfowl, and the Staten farming operation.”

– Mike Eaton, Delta Project Director for The Nature Conservancy



*CALFED Ecosystem Restoration staff hold a check for \$1.5 million presented to Ducks Unlimited, the Bureau of Land Management, and The Nature Conservancy to begin a new initiative on Staten Island to enhance wintering waterfowl habitat and demonstrate its compatibility with sustainable agriculture.*



## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee and Related Subcommittees
- Public Meetings on Specific Projects
- Public Review of Technical Documents
- Science Consortium
- New “User-Friendly” Format for Comprehensive Web Site:  
<http://calfed.ca.gov>
- Annual Reports
- Briefing Materials
- Brochures
- Presentations to local, regional, and statewide groups
- Media Events
- New Monthly Electronic Newsletter
- Coordination with Local Groups
- Tribal Participation

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The basic concept behind the term “environmental justice” is that all people – regardless of their race, color, nation of origin, or income – are able to enjoy equally high levels of environmental protection. The CALFED Program and agencies have made a firm commitment in the Bay-Delta Plan to addressing environmental justice issues and challenges related to ecosystem restoration and the management of water in the Bay-Delta and its tributary watersheds. The CALFED agencies are committed to seeking fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes, such that no segment of the population bears a disproportionately high and adverse health, environmental, social or economic impact resulting from CALFED’s programs, policies, or actions.

### 2002 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conducted five environmental justice workshops throughout the state to gain community input and understanding of environmental justice issues related to implementation of the Bay-Delta plan in coordination with various environmental justice stakeholders from the community.
- Developed a work plan to guide the CALFED agencies in addressing potential environmental justice issues and concerns.
- Integrated environmental justice criteria into the review process for several CALFED grant and loan programs.
- Launched a fish consumption study to assess the impacts of contaminated fish on disadvantaged communities in the Bay-Delta.
- Hired a full-time environmental justice coordinator to support the activities of the environmental justice subcommittee of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee, and to integrate environmental justice into implementation of the Bay-Delta Plan.